

Message Text

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12

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 SAJ-01 SAM-01 NIC-01 IO-14 DRC-01 /133 W

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R 130230Z AUG 74

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1848

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USLO PEKING

CINCPAC

UNCLAS HONG KONG 9030

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CH, HK, US

SUBJECT: PRC MEDIA AND HONG KONG COMMUNIST PRESS ON THE TRANSFER OF
PRESIDENTIAL POWERS AND SINO-US RELATIONS

1. PRESIDENT FORD'S AUGUST 9 MEETING WITH PRCLO DEPUTY CHIEF HUANG CHEN WAS REPORTED BY NCNA (AUGUST 10) WHICH POINTEDLY STATED THAT THE MEETING TOOK PLACE AT FORD'S REQUEST SOON AFTER HIS ASSUMPTION OF THE PRESIDENCY. NCNA ALSO NOTED THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER ATTENDED. (ON AUGUST 11, PEKING BROADCAST THE NCNA REPORT OF THE MEETING TO TAIWAN.) UNLIKE LOCAL HONG KONG COMMUNIST NEWSPAPERS, THE MAINLAND PRESS HAS NOT YET CARRIED A REPORT OF PRESIDENT FORD'S CABLES OF ASSURANCE TO CHINA AND TO ALL HEADS OF STATE THAT HE WILL PURSUE NIXON'S FOREIGN POLICY. (THE LOCAL COMMUNIST PRESS HAS VIEWED SECRETARY KISSINGER'S REMAINING IN OFFICE, AS A FURTHER INDICATION THAT THERE WILL BE NO MAJOR CHANGE IN US FOREIGN POLICY.)

2. MEANWHILE, THE HONG KONG COMMUNIST PAPERS HAVE AC-
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CORDED RATHER SYMPATHETIC TREATMENT TO FORMER PRESIDENT

NIXON, NOTING THAT IT WAS HE WHO FIRST OPENED THE DOOR TO
IMPROVED SINO-US RELATIONS. BUT TA KUNG PAO CITED A
FOREIGN WIRE SERVICE REPORT WHICH OBSERVED THAT FORD,
HAVING VISITED CHINA AND MET WITH PREMIER CHOU EN-LAI, IS
NO STRANGER TO CHINA.

CROSS

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NNN

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